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W. R. HEARST.

AN AMERICAN PAPER FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE.

Philippine War Practically Ended.

The war in the Philippines is practically ended. Aguinaldo is a fugitive. The armed Tagalos have been scattered to the four winds of Luzon, and if the American soldiers are permitted to clinch their final victory without orders to return at once to Manila, peace will be established throughout the islands within two weeks.

With the defeat and flight of Aguinaldo, his supporters in this country are left without an argument. No political party, as matters stand, can now find a campaign issue in the insurrection, with a microscope, a theodolite or a fine-tooth comb.

The question of how the war was conducted, how it was ended, where it was ended or by whom, is not at present of sufficient interest for argument.

All the old problems have disappeared with Aguinaldo. New problems now confront the American people. How are the islands to be governed? What rights and privileges are to be accorded to the islanders?

There was no general effort in the direction of independence when our soldiers landed in Manila. All they asked was a redress of grievances. Aguinaldo assembled the Tagalos—a small portion of the population—and declared war to gratify a personal ambition. He has had all the war he wants.

The arms of hundreds of Aguinaldo's tribesmen have been taken, and they have been told to go to their homes and go to work. Let them do so. A season in the rich fields, behind the ox-wains, and in the tobacco plantations, under a kind and benevolent rule, will teach them the value of peace.

In the meantime we tender our distinguished compliments to Messrs. Atkinson and Hoar. In spite of them the honor of the flag has been vindicated.

The Lesson of Evacuation Day.

One hundred and sixteen years ago to-day the last British redcoat left New York, and from that time to this no foreign soldier has ever set foot on Manhattan Island except as a guest or a prisoner.

In the seven years between the day they marched into New York and the day they pulled out, the British acquired a liberal education on the subject of relations with America. There were only three million Americans then, but they proved that it was better to have them for friends than for enemies. There are nearly eighty millions now. The lesson of Evacuation Day has been pretty thoroughly learned by this time, and it becomes more deeply impressed every year.

THE QUESTION of the Democratic leadership in the Assembly is up for discussion. Mr. J. Franklin Barnes, of Schuylar, has been suggested as a suitable leader. No doubt he would be under ordinary circumstances, but the circumstances just now are not ordinary. Some matters of intense interest to the people of this city are coming up in the next

Legislature. One of them is the creation of a municipal gas plant. A gentleman from Schuylar would hardly be the most efficient leader in such a fight. The metropolis furnishes the great majority of the Democratic members of the Assembly, and it ought to have the leader—somebody like Mr. Harburger, for instance.

The "Franklin Syndicate" in Brooklyn has come to a sudden end. Yesterday the Evening Journal took the matter up and sent its lawyer to the Brooklyn authorities with a clear statement of the case.

Miller, the manager, was indicted. He closed up his establishment and has disappeared. His "speculations" were fraudulent on their face. How the people could have been fooled so long and so thoroughly is a mystery. It has been said that Miller's interest rate of 10 per cent a week would amount to 520 per cent a year. It would at simple interest, but there was nothing to prevent its compounding. If the investor, instead of drawing his 10 per cent a week, reinvested the money in the business, the returns would amount to about 12,800 per cent a year. Money compounded at 10 per cent per year, per month or per week doubles itself in a little over seven years, months or weeks as the case may be.

Miller says that he has earned the income for these interest payments by speculating in Wall street. If he could make money for other people in that way he could make as much for himself. Suppose he had taken ten dollars of his own money five years ago, and had invested it in such a way as to bring him in 10 per cent a week, reinvesting the profits as fast as earned, he would have accumulated approximately the following amounts at the periods named:

In one year.....	\$1,280
In two years.....	163,840
In three years.....	20,971,520
In four years.....	2,684,354,560
In five years.....	343,597,383,680

Having thus acquired something like a thousand times the value of all the property on earth Mr. Miller would probably have been content to retire at that stage of the proceedings and give somebody else a chance. That he is willing to forego these riches and put his marvellous money-making capacity at the service of others while he lives in a cheap flat in Brooklyn indicates either that philanthropy in him has reached an unparalleled development or that the Kings County Grand Jury has not found its indictments a moment too soon.

THE JOHNSTOWN Democrat calls our attention to the fact that the Journal omitted to give it credit for Mr. George Horton's poem, "Christian War," reprinted from its columns. We are obliged for the reminder. The Demo-

crat is a prolific source of good things, but it is seldom that any paper has an opportunity to congratulate itself upon being the first to publish anything so good as Mr. Horton's poem.

The Gas War Bosh.

Three out of the four principal gas companies doing business in this city have decided not to use their sandbags and slungshots on the people until a more favorable opportunity arrives.

In other words, they will continue to sell gas at 65 cents for the present, in order to convey the impression that they are fighting the New Amsterdam Company, which has raised the price from 50 cents to \$1.10 per thousand feet.

All talk of continued war among the gas companies is bosh. The name of the Consolidated Gas Company is Rockefeller. He owns the Mutual and the Standard companies. He owns all the oil in this city, with which gas is made.

The New Amsterdam Gas Company is owned by Anthony N. Brady. A few days ago Mr. Brady and Mr. Cudahy, of Chicago, owned the Manhattan Oil Company, the Indiana Pipe Line and other oil companies. They could make gas independent of Rockefeller.

They cannot do it now. All these independent oil companies have passed into the hands of an "English syndicate." It is easy to understand who this "English syndicate" is.

The New Amsterdam Company, probably under the inspiration of a new contract with Rockefeller, has raised the price of gas. The other companies will follow suit. They will never allow a net stealage of \$12,000,000 a year to get away from them.

The New Amsterdam Company cannot make gas if Rockefeller says "no." In view of this fact, what a blind and brutal insult to the intelligence of the people this so-called "gas war" becomes.

The New Amsterdam Company is the scapegoat, the stalking horse, the decoy duck. The Consolidated Gas Company will not continue to sell gas at 65 cents. After the agitation and the indignation have somewhat subsided, the Consolidated will say: "Well, we cannot afford to sell gas at 65 cents when other companies are selling at \$1.10. We must raise our prices."

Then the prices will go up, the New Amsterdam will step into the fold, the monopoly will become ironclad, and the people will be miserable ever afterward, until they learn to manage their own affairs.

PLAIN TALK WITH THE PEOPLE.

New Organ for Hell's Kitchen.

Editor of the New York Journal:
I was very much touched by the plea for a little organ (from Hell's Kitchen), and called this morning on the firm of Mason & Hamilton and showed it to the manager of the firm. Without a moment's hesitation, but with much pleasure, he dictated and signed the enclosed note, which I send you herewith.
PEARL EYTINGE,
Nov. 24.

Editor of the New York Journal:
Dear Sir:—Having read in your paper this morning a communication with regard to the condition of the "little old organ" at Sunshine Mission, we beg to say that it would give us pleasure to present through you, a small organ for the use of the mission, and would thank you to let us know when and where it can be delivered. Yours very truly,
MASON & HAMILTON CO.,
William P. Daniels, General Manager.

The good women who devote their lives to the children of "Hell's Kitchen" will no doubt join us in thanking the kind donors of this new "little old organ" for the use of the mission people.

We are proud to be the medium through which it has been given. May it speak of better days, of brighter hopes and of noble aspirations.

It should be sent to Miss Frances Gaddis, Sunshine Mission, No. 484 Eleventh avenue.

About the News "Band Wagon."

Editor of the New York Journal:
It is my belief that the news correspondents started the Dewey scandal and that their papers pushed it along. You certainly took advantage of the golden opportunity and posted on your bulletin board in letters about two feet high that "Washington people were demanding their money back."

Why don't you apologize for fanning the flame, as well as for the thoughtless few (whom you call the "public") who started it? Come back, Journal, you are even going ahead of the band wagon.
J. A. M.
Nov. 23.

We printed the news. The fact that "Washington people were demanding their money back" was certainly worthy of astonishing type in any newspaper.

We are not ahead of the news band wagon, but we are certainly on the front seat, and our correspondent seems to appreciate the fact.

Polygamist Roberts and Congress.

Editor of the New York Journal:
Is it not understood that the Republican members of Congress will allow Mormon Roberts to be sworn in and then permit him to resign without further action?
J. M. EATON.
Nov. 22.

If Republicans, Democrats, Populists or any other members of Congress take this course they will condone polygamy and make themselves ridiculous in the eyes of the people.

There is a man out West who is under trial for marrying forty-four women. His crime differs from that of Roberts only in his superior industry. Why should he suffer imprisonment for a crime that seems to offer no obstacle to the election of another man to Congress?

We venture to predict that Roberts will not be "allowed to resign." Congress owes a few things to the people of this country, and every member in that honorable body should take an active interest in debarring the man with four wives from the councils of the nation.

Bad as the Force Bill.

Editor of the New York Journal:
The attempt of Tom Platt and his political cohorts to foist upon the citizens of the State of New York his iniquitous constabulary law is meeting, as it should, with opposition from every quarter.

The idea involved in this bill (should it ever become a law) is the same idea, prompted by the same partisan motives, which inspired and planned the Force bill. The intention of all such legislation is to rob the people of their right to control themselves, and any political party that will lend itself to the creation of such laws is unworthy the support of any liberty loving American citizen.

To think that Greater New York, with her population of more than four millions, must be controlled by the up-State population of less than three millions is a ridiculous proposition. Then again, what business has the up-State population to dictate to the City of New York how she shall conduct her local affairs? Has Greater New York ever attempted to dictate to Syracuse or Albany how its local affairs should be managed?

This latest proposition from the ever fertile brain of Tom Platt is only a straw which shows the tendencies of the times, and this tendency toward plutocracy may well be viewed with alarm by the citizens of our common country.

Any man, or any set of political scoundrels, of whatsoever party, who would seek to control the ballot by violence and fraud should never be trusted by the people. Their actions brand them as enemies to their country and the most dangerous foes to their country's liberty.

Providence, R. I. EDGAR L. MAINES.

Read the Journal, Mr. Stephens.

To the Editor of the New York Journal:
It seems a pity that Admiral Dewey could not be left alone in his happiness; that attention could not be diverted from him long enough to let him know that he was one of us again. But no! The know that he was one of us again; they have yellow journals have been too active; they have been scurrying around for a "sensational" and now, Mr. Editor, I suppose you have one, to be sure, but not one that will be praised or thought very highly of. It is the work of newspapers of your stripe that has been the cause of Dewey's present unhappiness.

Was it not enough when Dewey publicly announced his gratitude for the gift of the house to the people? And why, then, all this nonsense because he has bestowed the thing he cherished most into the hands of the woman he loved best? Is not that natural and kind of him? You hardly believe that Mrs. Dewey will attempt to run away with it?

It strikes me that it is a matter of religion, and you have vowed vengeance because he married a Catholic! If that is the reason, Editor of the Journal, keep it up!

Meanwhile we should warn the future heroes of our nation, and also those of England, for that country is turning them out nowadays, not to accept substantial gifts of any kind, not even from a newspaper of 100,000,000,000 circulation; but yet there is a better class of people in England, you know.

I have not met any one who did not think Dewey's action was entirely proper, but of course the funny editors of funny papers dream funny things, sometimes, especially when looking for a "sensation."

CHAS. STEPHENS.
New York, November 22.

PRICE OF GAS STILL 65 CENTS; TWO COMPANIES HOLD IT DOWN.



A Policeman Thaddeus Thickhead was patrolling his beat last night his detective instinct was aroused by a strong odor of one dollar and ten cent gas, which appeared to proceed from the City Hall Park Hotel. Hastily procuring a sealing ladder, the dauntless Thickhead mounted to the room whence the odor proceeded, and, to his horror, discovered the inanimate form of Wouter Van Twiller Knickerbocker lying prostrate under the unlighted gas burner, which was shedding forth great volumes of one dollar and ten cent gas. The Coroner was notified.—Up-to-date police blotter record.

The arbitrary increase in the price of gas simply emphasizes the imperative necessity of the city owning its own plant and furnishing light at a reasonable figure. I have said, and I say it now, that the city can manufacture and sell gas at 50 cents per thousand feet and make money on it. The Democratic party is pledged to municipal ownership. The Democrats in the Legislature will in my judgment support the Harburger bill. It is a good beginning toward relieving the people of a burden which they ought not to be compelled to bear. I hope the Journal will keep up the fight for municipal ownership. It will ultimately win.—Richard Croker to a Journal reporter last night.

The Consolidated Gas Company does not intend to keep on selling gas at 65 cents forever. We shall put up the price as soon as we get ready—we are not yet ready.—Statement by E. R. Holden, Director of the Consolidated Gas Company, to the Journal.

THE gas war is still on, according to the magnates, as bitterly as ever. Nevertheless, all concerned in it admit that there will be an early restoration of prices to the legal rate.

It was considered as certain at 9 o'clock yesterday morning that the Consolidated Gas Company and Russell Sage's Standard Gas Company would raise the price of gas, as that the stock market would open at 10 o'clock.

Russell Sage was saying so, all the brokers who deal in gas stocks were talking of the end of the gas war, of increased earnings, of old-time dividends and of a whopping big advance in gas share quotations. The lambs were in the Street with buying orders.

The Consolidated Gas directors met at the Farmers' Loan & Trust Company's offices and meditated on the situation for an hour. Then President Harrison E. Gawtry made the following announcement: "For a long time the price of gas was cut by the other companies below the legal rate and for the specific and avowed purpose of getting away the business of the Consolidated Gas Company. The course pursued was not legitimate business and led to bankruptcy, and the Consolidated Gas Company was prepared for such a condition and is abundantly able to meet it."

"The action of the New Amsterdam Gas Company is accompanied by the statement that its business has reached the limit of its capacity. This was the inevitable result of its selling gas at prices below the other companies and below the cost of production. It would be glad now to keep the business secured at the old rates, and so has put up the price. No notice will be taken of this by the Consolidated Gas Company."

The directors also announced that they had de-

clared the quarterly dividend of 1 per cent. A year ago they were paying 2 per cent every quarter, or 8 per cent annually.

It was said that canvassers for the Consolidated Company were at work among the customers of the New Amsterdam Company, offering to make contracts for a year at the rate of 65 cents the thousand feet. One effect of the new situation will be that consumers of gas in sections reached by the Consolidated and New Amsterdam will have to pay 15 cents more than they have been paying if they use Consolidated gas and 60 cents more if they stick to the New Amsterdam.

After their adjournment the Consolidated Company's directors refused to explain in detail the surprise which they had given.

"To use plain English," said E. R. Holden, one of the members of the Board, "the Consolidated Gas Company has no faith in the motive of the recent action of the New Amsterdam Gas Company. Just what the latter's motive was I am not prepared to say, but there is always something back of a move of this kind."

"If the New Amsterdam Company was a band of speculative adventurers, who hoped to make a point for themselves by this latest step, that might explain it, but of course that is not the case."

"We are not going to keep on selling gas at 65 cents forever. We shall put up the price at some time—when we get ready. We are not yet ready. We do not intend to shoot off our gun before the birds have begun to fly."

Russell Sage and his fellow directors in the Standard met in the afternoon. All through the morning Mr. Sage was talking like this:

"I am sure that the gas war is over now. There ought never to have been any war. One thing is proved, and that is that gas cannot be manufactured for 65 cents. It is the height of folly to sell it for less than \$1.10 in New York. They charge \$3 in some parts of the country, and nobody kicks."

"The Standard Company, therefore, will put its price up to where it belongs. I am not sure that it will be done this afternoon, though. I must talk with the other directors."

Just what the other directors said was not announced after the meeting, but no action of any kind was taken by the Standard Company's Board.

Russell Sage said: "We took no notice of the New Amsterdam Company, because we regarded the action as of a defiant character and as an indication that the New Amsterdam interests believed we should have to follow their lead."

The stock brokers' offices were full of stories about the expected sale of the Standard Gas Company to the Consolidated. Mr. Sage has been non-committal at times, and at times has talked as if the deal was on the point of consummation. All the world knows that if the Consolidated will give what Uncle Russell thinks his property is worth he will sell it between bites at luncheon.

On Thursday he said that he had asked for assurances that a price offered would be paid by the capitalists behind the man who offered it—in other words, that the agent really was treating on behalf of the Consolidated interests. He said yesterday:

"I don't want to sell my Standard stock. I will admit that I have had flattering offers for it. A man came in yesterday and named a price for all the stock. I want to tell you who he was or what his figure was. I know who are behind him. He bid more than 130. I would not look at 130. Positively, I have not sold out."

This last was in answer to a question based on a report that seemed to come from Mr. Rockefeller's office to the effect that the Standard Gas deal had been completed at 4 o'clock on Thursday afternoon. The price reported was 130 for the common and 145 for the preferred stock. The market quotations yesterday were: Common, 112 bid, and preferred, 140 bid. On Tuesday the common stock was offered at 115.

Consolidated Gas shares sold up to 205 in the early trading, a rise of about 5 points, but the news that the war was not yet settled caused a reaction to 195½, and the closing price was 196, a net loss of 3½ points. New Amsterdam Gas shares sold at 32½ on the curb in the morning, but the day's developments knocked the strength out of the trading, and the price declined to 31.

One of the things that gives the Consolidated Company its great advantage in the present situation is its command of oil at a lower price than its competitors pay. This company's contract with the Standard has several years to run yet, and the price it pays is about one-half that which Anthony N. Brady's oil company charges the New Amsterdam and the Standard.

The City Council passed a resolution yesterday calling upon the Board of Aldermen to pass the resolution or ordinance passed by the Council before the beginning of the gas war, in favor of the reduction of the price of gas to 75 cents per 1,000 cubic feet. Many of the legal experts of the Assembly believe that only the State Legislature has the power to regulate the price of gas.

The mere mention of municipal ownership of a gas plant brought a Cooper Union audience that had been listening to speeches on Civil Service reform to its feet with a howl of gas last night, and preliminary arrangements were promptly made for a mass meeting to voice public sentiment on the subject.

Professor Charles Sprague Smith, director of the Institute, spoke of Cooper Union audiences as numbering an average of 50 per cent of their number in favor of municipal ownership of "such public utilities as street railroads, gas."

A storm of applause drowned the next word. Resolutions were offered favoring the city establish its own gas plant, but were ruled out of order on that occasion. They will be in order next Friday night, however, when a committee will be named to make definite arrangements for a monster mass meeting.